

VZCZCXRO9204
RR RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM
DE RUEHGO #0551 1590254
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 080254Z JUN 07
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6142
INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1437
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0328
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 4550
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1947
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 3876
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 7423
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 4975
RUEHCN/AMCONSUL CHENGDU 1138
RUDKIA/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI TH 0994
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC
RUEHPH/CDC ATLANTA GA
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS RANGOON 000551

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP/MLS; USDA FOR FAS/PECAD, FAS/CNMP, FAS/AAD;
BANGKOK FOR USAID/RDMA: JMACARTHUR, APHIS: NCARDENAS, REO:
JWALLER; PACOM FOR FPA

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [AMED](#) [PGOV](#) [CASC](#) [TBIO](#) [KLFU](#) [BM](#)
SUBJECT: AI OUTBREAK IN BURMA'S BAGO DIVISION

¶1. (U) Summary: PCR tests conducted on June 4 confirmed that avian influenza caused thirty chicken deaths at an army farm in Bago division, 40 miles north of Rangoon. The chickens started to die on June 1, and Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) officials culled the remaining 970 birds and disinfected the farm. No human cases are suspected. End summary.

¶2. (U) LBVD informed Embassy APHIS employee that chickens at the 77th Light Infantry Division chicken farm in Bago Division, 40 miles north of Rangoon, began to die on June ¶1. The farm housed 1000 eleven-month-old layers in battery cages. The army requested LBVD assistance on June 3. Rapid Test Kit and PCR tests at the Central Lab confirmed H5N1 on June 4. The Division Commander gave the order to cull all remaining 970 birds. LBVD officials, assisted by Bago Division Rapid Response team members, began control measures, including depopulation and disinfection on June ¶4.

¶3. (U) Authorities did not impose restrictions on the movement of poultry in the area. Officials do not suspect any human cases.

¶4. (SBU) Comment: This is the second case we know of in which the army gave access and cooperation to civilian authorities, despite previous concerns that the military would opt for secrecy over civilian response efforts. So far, the value of coordinating with international organizations and preventing further spread of AI in an already weakened poultry industry has overcome the military's preference for privacy. End comment.